

05 April 2005

Dear USS SAIPAN Families and Friends:

In preparation for SAIPAN's summer deployment, we are sponsoring a Pre-Deployment Brief on 13 April 2005, 1800-2000, at the Fleet & Family Service Center located off Hampton Blvd (7928 14th Street, just behind the Navy Federal Credit Union) for the benefit of all SAIPAN spouses and interested friends and family members. SAIPAN sailors are welcome to attend and accompany their family members if they wish.

As part of the Brief, there will be presentations from representatives of Fleet & Family, our command ombudsmen, the chaplains, as well as members of our chain of command. There will be lots of helpful information and tips on finances, health care, ID cards, staying in touch, power of attorney, child care, etc. Deployments are never easy, but there are experienced people and resources available to help you prepare ahead of time and to support you through the separation. Our hope is that it makes for a smoother deployment both at sea and at home.



Even if you have attended a pre-deployment brief sometime in the past, I encourage you to attend this one on April 13. Spouses and guardians will especially find it helpful, informative, and a great way to get your questions answered. Refreshments will be served.

I look forward to seeing you at the Brief.

Sincerely,
R. D. Fitzpatrick
Commanding Officer

